

REMARKS

Claims 10-12, 20-30 and 31-44 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 13-19 have been cancelled without prejudice. The subject matter of claims 1-8 and 13-19 has been re-presented in new claims 31-44. No new matter is added by the addition of claims 31-44. Support is found in the application at least at claims 1-8 and 13-19 as originally filed.

Claims 9-12 and 20-30 are withdrawn. However, claims 9 and 12 have been amended to correct claim dependency, as the applicants maintain traversal of the Examiner's species restriction.

In Paper No. 6, the Examiner stated that claims 2, 3, and 6 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 2 has been rewritten as an independent claim 31 and the subject matter contained in claims 3-19 is now present in the claims that depend from claim 31 either directly or indirectly. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 38-44 are allowable.

In Paper No. 6, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lover and claims 1, 7, and 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being rendered obvious by Lover combined with Califano. The applicants submit that in view of the amendments included herein these rejections are no longer applicable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Moreover, in view of the fact that claim 39, the broad claim from which the remaining claims depend is allowable, rejoinder of claims 9-12 for the reasons set forth in the applicants' traversal of the restriction requirement, filed June 26, 2003, it is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims are fully allowable over the cited prior art. Reconsideration, rejoinder of claims 9-12 and allowance of the claims at the earliest opportunity is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date)

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